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sides of the cord. While a group near the middle of the animal may contain as many as twenty-five eyes, near the anterior or posterior ends a group may be represented by a single eye only. Each eye is composed of a sensory cell, so surrounded by a pigment cell that the former is accessible to light only from one direction. In general, the eyes ventral to the central canal face ventrally, as do those in the right half of the cord, while those in the left half face dorsally. Notwithstanding these anatomical differences, the living animal shows no special response to light coming in a particular direction.

G. H. P.

Note on the Mydaiidæ of New Mexico. — Prof. S. W. Williston has recently published (*Tr. Kansas Acad. Sci.*, vol. xv) some interesting notes on these curious flies. He remarks: "Collections of Diptera, even large ones, rarely include many specimens or species of Mydaiidæ." They are, in general, of southern distribution, though one species (*Mydas clavatus*) occurs rarely in Massachusetts. The first species observed in our region were those taken by Captain Pope on the Pecos River, somewhere about the Texas and New Mexico boundary. No less than four species from Pope's collection were described by Loew, as *Leptomydas venosus*, *Mydas luteipennis*, *M. simplex*, and *M. xanthopterus*. Dr. Williston, in his paper cited, adds a new species, *Ectyphus townsendi*, collected by Townsend at Las Cruces, N. M.; and also records *Mydas decar* O. S., and *M. basalis* Westw., as taken in New Mexico by F. H. Snow, but unfortunately omits to say just where.

On June 27, 1897, the writer was collecting grasshoppers with Mr. A. P. Morse, of Wellesley College, in the mesquite zone back of the Agricultural College, in the Mesilla Valley. Nearly at the same time, I took an example of *Mydas carbonifer* O. S., and Mr. Morse took one of *M. luteipennis* Loew, these being the first Mydaiidæ I had come across in several years' collecting. They were determined for me by Mr. Coquillett, of the Department of Agriculture. *M. carbonifer* is a black fly, well deserving its name, which seems to have a remarkable range. Osten Sacken's type was taken by Professor Comstock at Norton's Landing, Cayuga Lake, N. Y., and not only does it range south to New Mexico, but Williston (*loc. cit.*) refers provisionally to this species an example from Chapada, Brazil, doubtless collected by H. H. Smith, though it is not so stated.

M. luteipennis, which was also taken by Pope, is a large blue-black fly with red wings, so closely resembling *Pepsis rubra*, a formidable

Pompilid wasp common in the same locality, that we may regard it as a true mimic. Dr. Williston, describing another Mydaid (*Ceratomydas fraudulentus*) from Chapada, Brazil, remarks that it shows a remarkable mimicry of certain species of *Conops*, occurring in the same region. Is it not, perhaps, likely that both the *Ceratomydas* and the *Conops* mimic some Hymenopteron?

T. D. A. COCKERELL.

Zoölogical Notes. — Mr. A. E. Shipley, of Cambridge, England, has a valuable paper on the species of the peculiar group of parasites, the Linguatulidæ, in the first number of Blanchard's *Archives de Parasitologie*.

In the first number of the thirty-second volume of the *Jenaische Zeitschrift* are three papers dealing with the anatomy of the whales. Dr. Friedrich Jungklaus describes the stomach in the young and in some cases of the adult of six species of Cetacea. Among his conclusions he finds a striking difference between the stomachs of the toothed and the whalebone whales, that of the toothed whales differing far more from the normal mammalian whales than does that of the mystacocœtes. On the other hand, the resemblances between the two types are regarded as the result of convergence. Otto Müller discusses the alterations which the respiratory organs have undergone in the adaptation of these animals for an aquatic life, some other aquatic mammals being introduced for comparison. Wilhelm Dandt discusses the urogenital apparatus of the Cetacea. He concludes that the great development of the kidneys is due to the watery nature of the food, since in the absence of sweat glands all water must be eliminated by the lungs and kidneys. The strongly marked lobulation of the kidneys is secondary, not primitive. In the fœtus the penis is external, but it becomes internal during embryonic life. The accounts in these three papers go far towards supporting the thesis that the Cetacea is a group of polyphyletic origin, and their resemblances those of convergence.

Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, vol. xii, pp. 85–114, April 30, 1898, contains Bailey, V.: Descriptions of Eleven New Species and Subspecies of Voles. Bangs, O.: A New Raccoon from Nassau Island, Bahamas; Description of a New Fox from Santa Marta, Columbia; A New Marine Opossum from Margarita Island. Merriam, C. H.: The Earliest Generic Name for the North American Deer, with Descriptions of Five New Species and Subspecies; Descriptions of Two New Subgenera, and Three New Species of *Microtus* from Mexico and Guatemala; Descriptions of Twenty New